620 Creekmore Court Walnut Creek, CA 94598 October 3, 1999

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Dr. Jane E. Henney, Commissioner Food and Drug Administration 5600 Fishers Lane, HF-1 Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Commissioner Henney:

As the world enters the new millennium, it takes with it huge steps in technology. One of these steps is genetically altered food. I write to you with concerns about the safety, environmental effects, and economical effects of this food.

Americans may be unwittingly buying the genetically altered food because there is no label requirement for it. There has not been enough research completed to show the risks taken when eating the transgenic food. People should be warned that the food is not normal so they can have the choice to eat it or not. We are currently being made into guinea pigs while being completely unaware of it at the same time.

Transgenic foods may also be an environmental risk. The seeds of genetically altered plants are as new to the earth as small pox was to the early Native American Indians. This could have a devastating effect on our environment, should the plants have an unknown hazard in it.

Also take into consideration the farmers who choose not to plant genetically altered seeds because they feel it is not safe or they cannot afford it. If those seeds are altered to produce ten times more food than the standard seed, the other farmers will eventually die out due to lack of business. There is no way they can compete with those with the altered plants. There is another problem involving farmers, but it involves those whom choose to plant the altered seeds. The plants or seeds could release toxins or other health dangers, jeopardizing the farmers' health.

I would like more information regarding how the FDA is handling the policy for transgenic foods.

Yours truly,

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Angela Lew

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Dr. Jane E. HENNEY, COMMISSIONER FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION 5600 FISHERS LANE, HF-1 ROCKVILLE, MD 20857